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GSC-1099

21 November 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Trip Report from [REDACTED]

1. Purpose: To discuss meteorological factors pertaining to agency projects with personnel in the field and with Headquarters Air Weather Service representatives who followed the same itinerary.

2. Itinerary:

16 November - Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, Burbank, California.

16 November - Detachment "C", Edwards Air Force Base, California.

17-18 November - [REDACTED]

3. Lockheed Aircraft Corporation:

a. We conferred with [REDACTED]

The primary subject for discussion was the state of meteorological knowledge of the levels between 80,000 and 100,000 feet. It was agreed by all that this knowledge was less than adequate for establishing sound aircraft design criteria and dangerously inadequate for establishing operational procedures for the OXCART program.

b. It was agreed that Air Weather Service should proceed with an intensified upper air data gathering program, especially in the Arctic region. It was also agreed that LAC needed to compute performance curves over a wider range of ambient atmosphere conditions and that Air Weather Service would be provided copies of the computed curves.

4. Edwards Air Force Base:

a. We met [REDACTED]

Discussion centered around the ability of the detachment to fly a weather mission on short notice. The weather package is in good shape but has not been flight checked since before 1 May 1960. [REDACTED] agreed to have it flight checked in the near future.

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3. Lt. Colonel Gaertner informed [REDACTED] that Air Weather Service wanted to use a U-2 in its high altitude data collecting program in the Arctic but that any such request for participation of an agency unit would be made through Project Headquarters.

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5. [REDACTED]

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a. Our time was spent with [REDACTED]. The primary object of the discussion was to reach an agreement upon locations for weather instrument sites. Agreement was easily reached.

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b. A second more complicated item came to light during our conversation: the building space originally agreed upon, at Headquarters, for use as a weather station was dropped from the building plan many months ago. Other, completely inadequate, space had been allotted for weather station use without coordination with the weather section. If adequate weather support is to be provided at [REDACTED] approximately 600 square feet of building space will have to be provided in the secure operations area.

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[REDACTED]
Chief, Weather Section, DFD

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